

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1, as follows, with a marked-up copy of the amended claim being included in the Appendix attached to this reply:

1. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a ceramic composite, the method comprising:
preparing at least two ceramic bodies to be bonded together, each of the at least two ceramic bodies having a bonding surface;
preparing a slurry in which primary particles of a bonding ceramic are dispersed, said slurry being synthesized by merely adding a phosphoric compound to a calcium compound slurry;
applying the slurry to the bonding surface of at least one of the ceramic bodies to be bonded;
and
sintering the ceramic bodies between which the slurry has been interposed to bond them.

Please add claim 19, as follows:

19. A method of manufacturing a ceramic composite, the method comprising:
preparing at least two ceramic bodies to be bonded together, each of the at least two ceramic bodies having a bonding surface;
preparing a slurry in which primary particles of a bonding ceramic are dispersed in the absence of organic components;
applying the slurry to the bonding surface of at least one of the ceramic bodies to be bonded;
and
sintering the ceramic bodies between which the slurry has been interposed to bond them.